expenditure on food and non-food items, such as, fuel, clothing, housing, health education and social services. These Estimates of Poverty are available at the State level as well as national level for the year 1999-2000.

The Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical assistance to the States and the UTs to conduct the BPL Census in the beginning of every Five Year Plan to identify the poor households in the rural areas who could be targeted under the programmes of the Ministry. For BPL Census, 2002 the methodology of score based ranking of households as recommended by the Expert Group has been used which is based on 13-socio economic scoreable parameters such as size of land holding, type of house, clothes, food security, sanitation literacy, means of livelihood, etc. In order to ensure the transparency, the BPL list based on the Census 2002 can only be finalized with the approval of Gram Sabha and a mechanism has also been provided to address the objections of the people.

According to Poverty Estimates of 1999-2000 of Planning Commission 37.44% of rural population is living below the Poverty Line in Uttaranchal. Since Uttaranchal happens to be newly created State, therefore, separate Poverty Estimates for the previous Rounds of Survey are not available.

Textile parks in Tamil Nadu

3478. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up textile parks at Madurai and Sivakasi in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Government has launched the 'Scheme for Integrated Textile parks (SITP)' to provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units. This scheme is based on Public Private-Partnership (PPP) and would facilitate textile units to meet international standards. Industry Association/ Group of Entrepreneurs would be the main promoters of the Integrated Textile Parks.

No proposal for development of Integrated Textile Park at Madurai and Shivakasi has been received.

Malls and high rise buildings on textile mills-Land

3479. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon. Supreme Court has allowed 600 acre of textile mills land in Mumbai for planned development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the malls and high rise buildings likely to come on this land; and

(d) how is Mumbai infrastructure likely to benefit from this planned development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has given a judgment upholding the amendment made by the Government of Maharashtra in 2001 in the Development Control & Regulations 58 (DCR 58). The Supreme Court also observed that sale of 5 mills by the National Textile Corporation (NTC) was not contrary to the scheme approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). NTC has 103.34 acres of mills' land in Mumbai for sale. Out of this, 48.29 acres have already been sold by NTC.

(c) and (d) The projects that are expected to come up on these lands will be developed by the buyers and they are free to carry out any development including malls and high rise buildings as per the regulations framed by the local municipal authorities.

Fall in Cotton Prices

3480. SHRI N.R. GOVINDA RAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of cotton has fallen sharply in comparison to the international market and farmers are not getting remunerative price;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;